

Continuation of Appl. 09/925,715
Preliminary Amendment dated: December 3, 2003

REMARKS


Applicants have amended the specification to cross reference the parent applications. Applicants have also amended the claims taking into consideration the prosecution in the parent application. Original claim 30 has been canceled from the application as an improper use claim. Applicants retain the right to reintroduce any subject matter canceled by the present Amendment at any time during the prosecution of this application or any further application claiming benefit of this application.

Applicants believe that these claims are in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112 and are clearly patentable over the references of record in the parent application.

The present application is a continuation application and the prior art cited in the parent applications should be taken into consideration in the present application. In accordance with MPEP §2001.06(b) no copies of the prior art in the parent applications are submitted herewith. The reference cited forms from the parent applications are submitted herewith for the convenience of the Examiner. In accordance with MPEP §609, a Form 1449 listing these references is also submitted herewith. Confirmation that the prior art cited in the parent applications has been considered in the next Official Action is most respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments to the claims an early and favorable action on the merits is now in order and is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

By 
Richard E. Fichter
Registration No. 26,382

625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Phone: (703) 683-0500
Facsimile: (703) 683-1080
REF/kdd
PA01.wpd

December 3, 2003